

Local Plan for the Bradford District

**Bradford City Centre Area Action Plan
(BCCAAP)- Publication Draft**

Soundness Self-Assessment Checklist

April 2016

Note:-

This soundness checklist has been prepared by AMEC on behalf of the Planning Advisory Service (PAS) in January 2013 for the purposes of undertaking a self assessment of the tests the soundness of a Plan.

The City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council has used this checklist to demonstrate how the Bradford City Centre Area Action Plan (BCCAAP) meets the tests of soundness as set out in the 2004 Act, relevant Planning Regulations and the national Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). The document is a working draft up until Submission.

Soundness Self-Assessment Checklist (Update December 2014)

This note was prepared by AMEC on behalf of the Planning Advisory Service. It aims to help local authorities prepare their plans in advance of an examination, taking into account the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework. A separate checklist looks at legal compliance.

In summary – the key requirements of plan preparation are:

- Has the plan been positively prepared i.e. based on a strategy which seeks to meet objectively assessed requirements?
- Is the plan justified?
- Is it based on robust and credible evidence?
- Is it the most appropriate strategy when considered against the alternatives?
- Is the document effective?
- Is it deliverable?
- Is it flexible?
- Will it be able to be monitored?
- Is it consistent with national policy?

The Tests of Soundness at Examination

The starting point for the examination is the assumption that the Council has submitted what it considers to be a sound plan. Those seeking changes should demonstrate why the plan is unsound by reference to one or more of the soundness criteria.

The tests of soundness are set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (para 182): “The Local Plan will be examined by an independent inspector whose role is to assess whether the plan has been prepared in accordance with the Duty to Cooperate, legal and procedural requirements, and whether it is sound. A local planning authority should submit a plan for examination which it considers is ‘sound’ “, namely that it is:

1. Positively Prepared: based on a strategy which seeks to meet objectively assessed development and infrastructure requirements

This means that the Development Plan Document (DPD) should be based on a strategy which seeks to meet objectively assessed development and infrastructure requirements, including unmet requirements from neighbouring authorities where it is reasonable to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development. The NPPF has 12 principles through which it expects sustainable development can be achieved.

2. Justified: the most appropriate strategy when considered against the reasonable alternatives, based on proportionate evidence

This means that the DPD should be based on a robust and credible evidence base involving:

- Research/fact finding: the choices made in the plan are backed up by facts.
- Evidence of participation of the local community and others having a stake in the area; and

The DPD should also provide the most appropriate strategy when considered against reasonable alternatives. These alternatives should be realistic and subject to sustainability appraisal. The DPD should show how the policies and proposals help to ensure that the social, environmental, economic and resource use objectives of sustainability will be achieved.

3. Effective: deliverable over its period based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic priorities

This means the DPD should be deliverable, requiring evidence of:

- Sound infrastructure delivery planning;
- Having no regulatory or national planning barriers to delivery;
- Delivery partners who are signed up to it; and
- Coherence with the strategies of neighbouring authorities.
- The DPD should be flexible and able to be monitored.

The DPD should indicate who is to be responsible for making sure that the policies and proposals happen and when they will happen. The plan should be flexible to deal with changing circumstances, which may involve minor changes to respond to the outcome of the monitoring process or more significant changes to respond to problems such as lack of funding for major infrastructure proposals. Although it is important that policies are flexible, the DPD should make clear that major changes may require a formal review including public consultation. Any measures which the Council has included to make sure that targets are met should be clearly linked to an Annual Monitoring Report.

4. Consistent with national policy: enabling the delivery of sustainable development

The demonstration of this is a 'lead' policy on sustainable development which specifies how decisions are to be made against the sustainability criterion (see the Planning Portal for a model policy www.planningportal.gov.uk). If you are not using this model policy, the Council will need to provide clear and convincing reasons to justify its approach.

The following table sets out the requirements associated with these four tests of soundness. Suggestions for evidence which could be used to support these requirements are set out, although these have to be viewed in the context of the plan being prepared. Please don't assume that you have got to provide all of these, they are just suggestions of what could be relevant.

In addition, the Legal Compliance checklist (a separate document, see www.pas.gov.uk) should be completed to ensure that this aspect is covered.

The Duty to Co-operate will also be assessed as part of the examination process.

Soundness Test and Key Requirements**Possible Evidence****Evidence Provided**

Positively Prepared: the plan should be prepared based on a strategy which seeks to meet objectively assessed development and infrastructure requirements, including unmet requirements from neighbouring authorities where it is reasonable to do so and consistent with achieving sustainable development.

<p><i>Vision and Objectives</i></p> <p>Has the LPA clearly identified what the issues are that the DPD is seeking to address? Have priorities been set so that it is clear what the DPD is seeking to achieve?</p> <p>Does the DPD contain clear vision(s) and objectives which are specific to the place? Is there a direct relationship between the identified issues, the vision(s) and the objectives?</p> <p>Is it clear how the policies will meet the objectives? Are there any obvious gaps in the policies, having regard to the objectives of the DPD?</p> <p>Have reasonable alternatives to the quantum of development and overall spatial strategy been considered?</p> <p>Are the policies internally consistent?</p> <p>Are there realistic timescales related to the objectives?</p> <p>Does the DPD explain how its key policy objectives will be achieved?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sections of the DPD and other documents which set out (where applicable) the vision, strategic objectives, key outcomes expected, spatial portrait and issues to be addressed. • Relevant sections of the DPD which explain how policies derive from the objectives and are designed to meet them. • The strategic objectives of the DPD, and the commentary in the DPD of how they derive from the spatial portrait and vision, and how the objectives are consistent with one another. • Sections of the DPD which address delivery, the means of delivery and the timescales for key developments through evidenced infrastructure delivery planning. • Confirmation from the relevant agencies that they support the objectives and the identified means of delivery. • Information in the local development scheme, or provided separately, about the scope and content (actual and intended) of each DPD showing how they combine to provide a coherent policy structure. 	<p>Section 1 and 2 of the BCCAAP. Each individual Neighbourhood chapter also sets out the spatial characteristics, visions and growth/development aspiration for the relevant area.</p> <p>Section 3-each thematic policy chapter highlights relevant AAP objectives that the policy seeks to take forward in order to deliver the vision for the BCCAAP.</p> <p>AAP Objectives set out to deliver the vision.</p> <p>Section 4 –Implementation and Delivery.</p> <p>Background paper [BCC/SD/015] and Statement of Consultation [BCC/SD/008]</p> <p>Local Development Scheme</p>
<p><i>The presumption in favour of sustainable development (NPPF paras 6-17)</i></p> <p>Local Plans should meet objectively assessed</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An evidence base which establishes the development needs of the plan area (see Justified below) and includes a flexible approach to delivery (see ‘Section 3 Effective’, below). 	<p>District wide evidence: Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) [PS/GOO4i], Strategic Housing</p>

<p>needs, with sufficient flexibility to adapt to rapid change, unless:</p> <p>—any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this Framework taken as a whole; or</p> <p>—specific policies in this Framework indicate development should be restricted.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An audit trail showing how and why the quantum of development, preferred overall strategy and plan area distribution of development were arrived at. 	<p>Market Assessment (SHMA) [EB/050], Employment Land Assessment [EB/027], Bradford District Retail and Leisure Study Update [EB/034], Strategic Flood Risk Assessment [EB048], Transport Study</p> <p>AAP evidence: Strategic Flood Risk Assessment L2[BCC/SD/025], AAP Ecological Assessment [BCC/SD/021], AAP Green Infrastructure Study [BCC/SD/023], AAP Transport Study[BCC/SD/024], AAP Infrastructure Delivery Plan [BCC/SD/022], AAP Viability Assessment [BCC/SD/028],</p> <p>Appraisals: Sustainability Appraisal [BCC/SD/003], Habitat Regulation Assessment Screening [BCC/SD/017], Equalities Impact Assessment Screening [BCC/SD/018], Health Impact Assessment [BCC/SD/019]</p> <p>The quantum of development proposed reflects the contents of the Housing Requirement Study and SHMA update. The approach to distribution is explained in CS paragraphs 5.3.39 to 5.3.64 and a Background Paper. The distribution is specifically linked to the CS strategic core policies and in particular the settlement hierarchy which</p>
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		<p>concentrates development in the main urban areas where population growth and housing need is greatest and where accessibility to jobs and services can be maximised.</p> <p>The quantum of Employment land is explained in CS paragraph 5-1-15 and also in the Background paper.</p>
<p>Policies in Local Plans should follow the approach of the presumption in favour of sustainable development so that it is clear that development which is sustainable can be approved without delay. All plans should be based upon and reflect the presumption in favour of sustainable development, with clear policies that will guide how the presumption should be applied locally.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A policy or policies which reflect the principles of the presumption in favour of sustainable development (see model policy at www.planningportal). 	<p>The Council considers the policies and principles contained within the Area Action Plan are consistent with national policy including presumption in favour of sustainable development. There are no instances where policies depart from national policy.</p>
<p><i>Objectively assessed needs</i></p> <p>The economic, social and environmental needs of the authority area addressed and clearly presented in a fashion which makes effective use of land and specifically promotes mixed use development, and take account of cross-boundary and strategic issues.</p> <p>Note: Meeting these needs should be subject to the caveats specified in Paragraph 14 of the NPPF (see above).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background evidence papers demonstrating requirements based on population forecasts, employment projections and community needs. 	<p>Population and household forecasts together with employment projections from the Experian Regional Econometric Model (REM) were core to the development of scenarios within the Bradford Housing Requirement Study & Addendum report. Employment land requirements also had regard to employment projections – see Bradford Employment Land Review & Updates [eb/027]. Further information contained within Background Paper [BCC/SD/015] and Evidence Base [BCC/SD/038], Reports</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical papers demonstrating how the aspirations and objectives of the DPD are related to the evidence, and how these are to be met, including from consultation and associated with the Duty to Co-operate. 	Background Paper [BCC/SD/015] and Evidence Base [BCC/SD/038], Reports
NPPF Principles: Delivering sustainable development		
1. Building a strong, competitive economy (paras 18-22)		
Set out a clear economic vision and strategy for the area which positively and proactively encourages sustainable economic growth (21),	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Articulation of a clear economic vision and strategy for the plan area linked to the Economic Strategy and LEP Strategy where appropriate. 	This is incorporated within the overall vision (section 1) of the AAP which aligns with the Bradford Economic Strategy 2011-2013, The Community Strategy, and informed by the Bradford Local Economic Assessment, Understanding Bradford District Report and the retail and Leisure Study 2013. The Challenges faced by the City Centre and the Strategy to address the need for economic developments are drawn out in the relevant AAP Chapters e.g. 'Shopping and Leisure' and 'Business'.
Recognise and seek to address potential barriers to investment, including poor environment or any lack of infrastructure, services or housing (21)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A criteria-based policy which meets identified needs and is positive and flexible in planning for specialist sectors, regeneration, infrastructure provision, environmental enhancement. 	Each thematic policy chapter (section 3) sets the context for identifying the relevant need and outlines positive and flexible policies to help deliver city centre regeneration, environmental enhancement, infrastructure provision, housing and economic growth as well as specialist development in a managed and sustainable manner.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An up-to-date assessment of the deliverability of allocated employment sites, to meet local needs, (taking into account that LPAs should avoid the long term protection of sites allocated for employment use where there is no reasonable prospect of an allocated site being used for that purpose) para (22) 	<p>Infrastructure Delivery plan [BCC/SD/022] also identifies key infrastructure, in particular transport investment.</p> <p>The Employment Land Review undertakes [EB/047] a detailed analysis of all the existing employment sites and the contribution they can make to the economic strategy. Reference is also made to deliverability in CS paragraph 5-1-18.</p>
2. Ensuring the vitality of town centres (paras 23-37)		
Policies should be positive, promote competitive town centre environments, and set out policies for the management and growth of centres over the plan period (23)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Plan and its policies may include such matters as: definition of networks and hierarchies; defining town centres; encouragement of residential development on appropriate sites; allocation of appropriate edge of centre sites where suitable and viable town centre sites are not available; consideration of retail and leisure proposals which cannot be accommodated in or adjacent to town centres. 	<p>CS Strategic Core Policy 4 (SC4), supporting the hierarchy of settlements and gives strategic guidance on their development.</p> <p>AAP Policies SL1, SL2, SL3 and B1 seek to maintain and enhance town centre vitality and also give development management guidance on town centre uses.</p>
Allocate a range of suitable sites to meet the scale and type of retail, leisure, commercial, office, tourism, cultural, community services and residential development needed in town centres (23)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An assessment of the need to expand (the) town centre(s), considering the needs of town centre uses. 	<p>AAP allocates sites promoting retail, leisure, office and other employment generating uses. The process of formulating policies is informed by the need as identified in evidence base reports e.g. Bradford Retail and Leisure Study, Employment Land Review etc.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary and secondary shopping frontages identified and allocated. 	AAP Policy SL2
3. Supporting a prosperous rural economy (para 28)		
Support sustainable economic growth in rural areas. Planning strategies should promote a strong rural economy by taking a positive approach to new development. (28)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where relevant include a policy or policies which support the sustainable growth of rural businesses; promote the development and diversification of agricultural businesses; support sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments, and support local services and facilities. 	N/A
4. Promoting sustainable transport (paras 29-41)		
<p>Facilitate sustainable development whilst contributing to wider sustainability and health objectives. (29)</p> <p>Balance the transport system in favour of sustainable transport modes and give people a real choice about how they travel whilst recognising that different policies will be required in different communities and opportunities to maximise sustainable transport solutions will vary from urban to rural areas. (29)</p> <p>Encourage solutions which support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and congestion (29) including supporting a pattern of development which, where reasonable to do so, facilitates the use of sustainable modes of transport. (30)</p> <p>Local authorities should work with neighbouring authorities and transport providers to develop strategies for the provision of viable infrastructure necessary to support sustainable development. (31)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joint working with adjoining authorities, transport providers and Government Agencies on infrastructure provision in order to support sustainable economic growth with particular regard to the facilities referred to in paragraph 31. • Policies encouraging development which facilitates the use of sustainable modes of transport and a range of transport choices where appropriate, particularly the criteria in paragraph 35. • A spatial strategy and policy which seeks to reduce the need to travel through balancing housing and employment provision. • Policy for major developments which promotes a mix of uses and access to key facilities by sustainable transport modes. 	<p>Policy M2 promotes joint working with the Highways Agency, Metro and Network Rail.</p> <p>Policy M1 and M2 encourage the uses of sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>Policies M1, M2 and M4 seek to reduce the need to travel and encourage use of the public transport network which in turn will promote creating a balance between housing and economic growth.</p> <p>Policies M1, M2, M3 and M4 encourages development to be appropriately located to ensure that the need to travel is reduced, the use of sustainable travel is maximised, and</p>

<p>Opportunities for sustainable transport modes have been taken up depending on the nature and location of the site, to reduce the need for major transport infrastructure. (32)</p> <p>Ensure that developments which generate significant movement are located where the need to travel will be minimised and the use of sustainable transport modes can be maximised (34)</p> <p>Plans should protect and exploit opportunities for the use of sustainable transport modes for the movement of goods or people. (35)</p> <p>Policies should aim for a balance of land uses so that people can be encouraged to minimize journey lengths for employment, shopping, leisure, education and other activities. (37)</p> <p>For larger scale residential developments in particular, planning policies should promote a mix of uses in order to provide opportunities to undertake day-to-day activities including work on site. Where practical, particularly within large-scale developments, key facilities such as primary schools and local shops should be located within walking distance of most properties. (38)</p> <p>The setting of car parking standards including provision for town centres. (39-40)</p> <p>Local planning authorities should identify and protect, where there is robust evidence, sites and routes which could be critical in developing infrastructure to widen transport choice. (41)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If local (car parking) standards have been prepared, are they justified and necessary? (39) • Identification and protection of sites and routes where infrastructure could be developed to widen transport choice linked to the Local Transport Plan. 	<p>the impact of development on the existing transport networks is minimal.</p> <p>Policy M3 makes link to CS Appendix 4 which sets out car parking standards.</p> <p>Infrastructure Delivery plan [BCC/SD/022] identifies key infrastructure in particular transport investment. Key infrastructure requirements are also identified in relevant site allocation statements especially when such infrastructure is deemed to be crucial for the delivery of the proposed development on that site.</p>
<p>5. Supporting high quality communications infrastructure (paras 42-46)</p>		

<p>Support the expansion of the electronic communications networks, including telecommunications’ masts and high speed broadband. (43)</p> <p>Local planning authorities should not impose a ban on new telecommunications development in certain areas, impose blanket Article 4 directions over a wide area or a wide range of telecommunications development or insist on minimum distances between new telecommunications development and existing development. (44)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy supporting the expansion of electronic communications networks, including telecommunications and high speed broadband, noting the caveats in para 44. 	<p>As part of the wider Local Plan, the Council’s Development Management Policies includes guidance on telecommunications. Policies in the AAP are focussed on issues unique to the area; hence it was considered that a City Centre specific policy on this matter was not required.</p> <p>AAP Objective 5 promotes creating a thriving city centre economy through technological enhancement build on the successful delivery of the super connected cities programme.</p> <p>Policy ED1 however supports research and development uses (specifically within the Learning Quarter) which are most likely to be linked with development and expansion of new telecommunication facilities.</p> <p>The Council doesn’t have policies imposing any restriction on building new telecommunication networks within the City Centre.</p> <p>Infrastructure Delivery Study [BCC/SD/022]</p>
<p>6. Delivering a wide choice of high quality housing (paras 47-55)</p>		
<p>Identify and maintain a rolling supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide five years’</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of: 	<p>Five year land supply assessment included within the SHLAA. Latest</p>

<p>worth of housing against their housing requirements; this should include an additional buffer of 5% or 20% (moved forward from later in the plan period) to ensure choice and competition in the market for land. 20% buffer applies where there has been persistent under delivery of housing(47)</p>	<p>a) five years or more supply of specific deliverable sites; plus the buffer as appropriate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where this element of housing supply includes windfall sites, inclusion of ‘compelling evidence’ to justify their inclusion (48) • A SHLAA 	<p>position identified as a 2.3 years worth supply.</p> <p>A strategy for major land releases to meet housing need over the short and longer term is set out in the Core Strategy. The AAP is in conformity with the Core Strategy and it allocates a range of sites capable of delivering various types and tenure of houses and thereby contributing to the housing requirement.</p> <p>There is also a very strong developer’s interest on residential development evident from the high number of pre-app queries and discussions the Council have had in recent months.</p> <p>The phasing of sites likely to contribute to the provision of new housing is set out in Policy HO4 of the Core Strategy.</p> <p>No windfall element included in the SHLAA or 5 year land supply.</p> <p>SHLAA produced and then updated in 2013. Second update [PS/G004iSHLAAJuly2015]</p>
<p>Identify a supply of developable sites or broad locations for years 6-10 and, where possible,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of a supply of developable sites or broad locations for: a) years 6-10; b) years 11-15 	<p>The AAP has identified a range of sites within the city centre and outlined</p>

years 11-15 (47).		indicative delivery timeframes (short/medium/long) for proposed uses on each of the sites.
Illustrate the expected rate of housing delivery through a trajectory; and set out a housing implementation strategy describing how a five year supply will be maintained. (47)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A housing trajectory • Monitoring of completions and permissions (47) • Updated and managed SHLAA. (47) 	<p>The AAP is in conformity with the Core Strategy which includes a housing trajectory in Appendix 7.</p> <p>The Annual Monitoring Report sets out the Council's housing permissions and completions.</p> <p>SHLAA produced and then updated in 2013. Second update [PS/G004:SHLAAJuly2015]</p>
Set out the authority's approach to housing density to reflect local circumstances (47).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy on the density of development. 	<p>CS Policy HO5 sets out the Council's approach to density of Housing Schemes. It states that to ensure delivery of housing growth in the most sustainable way, developers will be required developments to make the best and most efficient use of land.</p> <p>AAP Policy SL1 also includes a density criterion for residential development within the City Centre. It requires such development in the City Centre to achieve a minimum density of 250 dwellings per hectare, with some flexibility considered due to compelling local circumstances.</p>

<p>Plan for a mix of housing based on current and future demographic and market trends, and needs of different groups (50) and caters for housing demand and the scale of housing supply to meet this demand. (para 159)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy on planning for a mix of housing (including self-build, and housing for older people • SHMA • Identification of the size, type, tenure and range of housing) required in particular locations, reflecting local demand. (50) • Evidence for housing provision based on up to date, objectively assessed needs. (50) • Policy on affordable housing and consideration for the need for on-site provision or if off-site provision or financial contributions are sought, where these can these be justified and to what extent do they contribute to the objective of creating mixed and balanced communities. (50) 	<p>CS Policy HO8 on Housing Mix ensures that a mix and balance of housing is provided to meet the needs of the district’s growing and diverse population.</p> <p>AAP Policy SL1 also sets out the approach to delivery of new housing in the area. This makes provision for a range of housing types and tenures to cater for all sectors of the community and secure the creation of sustainable city centre communities;</p> <p>AAP Policies have been informed by the original SHMA produced in 2010 and SHMA update in 2013.</p> <p>CS Policy HO11 on Affordable Housing will ensure that there is a sufficient supply of good quality and appropriate mix affordable housing distributed throughout the district, particularly in the areas of highest need.</p> <p>Affordable Housing Economic Viability Assessment</p> <p>AAP Viability Assessment [BCC/SD/028]</p>
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		Housing Requirement Study
<p>In rural areas be responsive to local circumstances and plan housing development to reflect local needs, particularly for affordable housing, including through rural exception sites where appropriate (54).</p> <p>In rural areas housing should be located where it will enhance or maintain the vitality of rural communities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of allowing some market housing to facilitate the provision of significant additional affordable housing to meet local needs. • Consideration of the case for resisting inappropriate development of residential gardens. (This is discretionary)(para 53) • Examples of special circumstances to allow new isolated homes listed at para 55. 	N/A
7. Requiring good design (paras 56-68)		
<p>Develop robust and comprehensive policies that set out the quality of development that will be expected for the area (58).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of policy or policies which seek to increase the quality of development through the principles set out at para 58 and approaches in paras 59-61, linked to the vision for the area and specific local issues 	<p>Core Policy SC9 sets out high level design principles.</p> <p>AAP Policy BF1: The nature of the Built Form provides a design led approach to new development and public realm interventions. It sys development proposals should be of high quality design, respect the site and its setting, and enhance the character and local distinctiveness of the City Centre. Proposals will also be expected to accord with the Bradford City Centre Design Guide and Addendum, the Neighbourhood Spatial Frameworks and Proposal Statements, and any other relevant policy or guidance.</p> <p>Development briefs accompanying each AAP site allocation include design statements which are particularly tailored to inform the design and</p>

		delivery of proposed uses on the relevant sites.
8. Promoting healthy communities (paras 69-77)		
<p>Policies should aim to design places which: promote community interaction, including through mixed-use development; are safe and accessible environments; and are accessible developments (69).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of a policy or policies on inclusive communities. • Promotion of opportunities for meetings between members of the community who might not otherwise come into contact with each other, including through mixed-use developments which bring together those who work, live and play in the vicinity; safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion; and accessible developments, containing clear and legible pedestrian routes, and high quality public space, which encourage the active and continual use of public areas. (69) 	<p>The vision and objectives of the Plan seek to provide a range of facilities, services and places that support sustainable local communities and the needs of current and future residents of the City Centre.</p> <p>The Plan recognises that the area has a blend of uses including homes, offices, shops, schools, college, university, museums and entertainment uses, including cinemas, restaurants, cafes and pubs. This mix creates a diverse, vital and interesting area which provides opportunities for better accessibility, quality of life and community cohesion.</p> <p>The Plan policies also promote key principles required to create sustainable neighbourhoods. Some of these policies include creating attractive street by fronting active uses or windows fronting streets and articulation of facades (CL3, SL2), improving connections between shopping areas (SL3), expansion and</p>

		<p>creation of cultural attractions (SL4), promotion of recreation and leisure uses (ED1), and enhancing walking, cycling and public realm experience of all city centre users (M1). The plan also seeks to identify opportunities to create new publicly accessible open and green spaces, including spaces within streets and public areas, within development sites and by supporting the biodiversity and green infrastructure key intervention identified in the plan (M5 and M6).</p> <p>AAP HIA [BCC/SD/019]</p> <p>GI Study [BCC/SD/023]</p>
<p>Policies should plan positively for the provision and use of shared space, community facilities and other local services (70).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of a policy or policies addressing community facilities and local service. • Positive planning for the provision and integration of community facilities and other local services to enhance the sustainability of communities and residential environments; safeguard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services; ensure that established shops, facilities and services are able to develop and modernize; and ensure that housing is developed in suitable locations which offer a range of community facilities and good access to key services and infrastructure. 	<p>AAP objectives and policies emphasise the importance of high quality inclusive design by ensuring developments encourage social interaction and where appropriate provide opportunities for members of the community to meet and come into contact with each other.</p> <p>The AAP site allocations further encourage a range of developments that would remedy identified deficiencies in local infrastructure and services including open space, community and education facilities.</p>

		<p>Sites are also selected which are accessible to a range of services and community facilities thereby reducing the need to travel.</p> <p>Policies CL1, CL3, CL4, SL1, SL3, SL4, B1, ED1, M1 particularly encourage improved access to good quality homes, jobs, shopping, cultural facilities, health and education provision and community facilities for a growing residents, visitors and workers in the city centre.</p>
<p>Identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities; and set locally derived standards to provide these (73).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area. (73) • A policy protecting existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land from development, with specific exceptions. (74) • Protection and enhancement of rights of way and access. (75) 	<p>CS Policy EN1 outlines the Council’s approach on safeguarding all current and past open spaces, including parks and gardens, natural and semi-natural greenspaces, green corridors, amenity and local greenspace, outdoor sports facilities, provision for children, allotments, civic spaces and also areas of water which offer opportunities for sport and recreation.</p> <p>The GI study highlights the deficiency of Green/public open space in the City Centre. AAP Policy M5 and M6 aim to address this issue by identifying opportunities for key biodiversity/green/blue infrastructure</p>

		<p>interventions that would deliver public realm and open space improvement.</p> <p>CS Appendix 9 Sets the local open space standards</p>
<p>Enable local communities, through local and neighbourhood plans, to identify special protection green areas of particular importance to them – ‘Local Green Space’ (76-78).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy enabling the protection of Local Green Spaces. (Local Green Spaces should only be designated when a plan is prepared or reviewed, and be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period. The designation should only be used when it accords with the criteria in para 77). Policy for managing development within a local green space should be consistent with policy for Green Belts. (78) 	<p>CS Policy EN1 (D) sets out high level policy for Local Green Spaces.</p> <p>Local communities have been consulted throughout the production of the document, and are broadly supportive of plans to improve public access to existing green spaces and the provision of new open spaces within developments.</p>
<p>9. Protecting Green Belt land (paras 79-92)</p>		
<p>Local planning authorities should plan positively to enhance the beneficial use of the Green Belt, such as looking for opportunities to provide access; to provide opportunities for outdoor sport and recreation; to retain and enhance landscapes, visual amenity and biodiversity; or to improve damaged and derelict land. (81)</p> <p>Local planning authorities with Green Belts in their area should establish Green Belt boundaries in their Local Plans which set the framework for Green Belt and settlement policy. (83)</p> <p>When drawing up or reviewing Green Belt boundaries local planning authorities should take account of the need to promote sustainable patterns of development. (84)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where Green Belt policies are included, these should reflect the need to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Enhance the beneficial use of the Green Belt. (81) ○ Accord with criteria on boundary setting, and the need for clarity on the status of safeguarded land, in particular. (85) ○ Specify that inappropriate development should not be approved except in very special circumstances. (87) ○ Specify the exceptions to inappropriate development (89-90) ○ Identify where very special circumstances might apply to renewable energy development. (91) 	<p>Not relevant to City Centre AAP.</p> <p>As a strategic matter, green belt boundaries have been established through the Core Strategy and no alterations are proposed within the AAP.</p>

<p>Boundaries should be set using ‘physical features likely to be permanent’ amongst other things (85)</p>		
<p>10. Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change (paras 93-108)</p>		
<p>Adopt proactive strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change taking full account of flood risk, coastal change and water supply and demand considerations. (94)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning of new development in locations and ways which reduce greenhouse gas emissions. • Support for energy efficiency improvements to existing building. • Local requirements for a building’s sustainability which are consistent with the Government’s zero carbon buildings policy . (95)) 	<p>The Core Strategy sets out how the Council tackles climate change through promoting higher environmental standards. It encourages all developments to meet the highest feasible environmental standards that are financially viable and requires all developments to take measures to minimise the effects of, and adapt to, climate change (CS policy SC2). It also promotes sustainable travel (CS policy TR1 and TR3), dealing with flood risk (CS Policy EN7) and Protection of environment (CS policy EN8).</p> <p>Policy EC4 encourages BREEAM standards while Policy HO9 sets out the standards for housing development. All developments in the City Centre will be assessed against the sustainability policies and guidance in the Core Strategy.</p> <p>AAP Policy CL2 sets out detail criteria for dealing with flood risk. Policy M1 encourages measures that would encourage modal shift away from car.</p>

<p>Help increase the use and supply of renewable and low carbon energy through a strategy, policies maximising renewable and low carbon energy, and identification of key energy sources. (97)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A strategy and policies to promote and maximise energy from renewable and low carbon sources, • Identification of suitable areas for renewable and low carbon energy sources, and supporting infrastructure, where this would help secure the development of such sources (see also NPPF footnote 17) • Identification of where development can draw its energy supply from decentralised, renewable or low carbon supply systems and for co-locating potential heat customers and suppliers. (97) 	<p>CS Policy SC2 and Policy EN6 seek to promote use of renewable energy.</p> <p>AAP Policy BF3 requires all development to explore opportunities to implement and maximise renewable energy generation.</p> <p>AAP Policy BF4 encourages developments to explore District Heat Network opportunities to maximise energy from renewable and low carbon supply.</p>
<p>Minimise vulnerability to climate change and manage the risk of flooding (99)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Account taken of the impacts of climate change. (99) • Allocate, and where necessary re-locate, development away from flood risk areas through a sequential test, based on a SFRA. (100) • Policies to manage risk, from a range of impacts, through suitable adaptation measures 	<p>CS Policies SC1 and SC2 seek to set the principles for climate change and flood risk management approach.</p> <p>Both CS Policy HO7 (7) and AAP Policy CL2 set out detailed principles for site selection including flood risk sequential approach and adaptation measures.</p> <p>CS Policy EN7 sets out approach to flood risk management.</p> <p>AAP Policy approach supported by SFRA level 1 and 2.</p>
<p>Manage risk from coastal change (106)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of where the coast is likely to experience physical 	<p>Not applicable</p>

	<p>changes and identify Coastal Change Management Areas, and clarity on what development will be allowed in such areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision for development and infrastructure that needs to be re-located from such areas, based on SMPs and Marine Plans, where appropriate. 	
11. Conserving and enhancing the natural environment (paras 109-125)		
Protect valued landscapes (109)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A strategy and policy or policies to create, protect, enhance and manage networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure. • Policy which seeks to minimise the loss of higher quality agricultural land and give great weight to protecting the landscape and scenic beauty of National Parks, the Broads and AONBs. 	<p>AAP Policy M5 and Policy M6 support the delivery of key biodiversity and green/blue infrastructure interventions as identified in the Green Infrastructure study and the Ecological Assessment.</p> <p>CS Policy SC6 seeks to protect green spaces and corridors while Policy EN2 seeks to achieve biodiversity enhancement and to protect areas of biodiversity importance across the district.</p>
Prevent unacceptable risks from pollution and land instability (109)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy which seeks development which is appropriate for its location having regard to the effects of pollution on health, the natural environment or general amenity. 	<p>AAP Policy M1 and Policy M2 aim to reduce the demand for travel, encourage and facilitate the use of sustainable travel modes, limit traffic growth and reduce congestion.</p> <p>BF4 encourages low carbon living and requiring new development to use resources sustainable and reduce its environmental impact.</p>
Planning policies should minimise impacts on biodiversity and geodiversity (117)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification and mapping of local ecological networks and geological conservation interests. 	<p>AAP Policy M5 and Policy M6 support the delivery of key biodiversity and</p>

<p>Planning policies should plan for biodiversity at a landscape-scale across local authority boundaries (117)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies to promote the preservation, restoration and re-creation of priority habitats, ecological networks and the recovery of priority species. 	<p>green/blue infrastructure interventions as identified in the Green Infrastructure study and the Ecological Assessment.</p> <p>CS Policy SC6 seeks to protect green spaces and corridors while Policy EN2 seeks to achieve biodiversity enhancement and to protect areas of biodiversity importance across the district.</p>
<p>12. Conserving and enhancing the historic environment (paras 126-141)</p>		
<p>Include a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk (126)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A strategy for the historic environment based on a clear understanding of the cultural assets in the plan area, including assets most at risk. • A map/register of historic assets • A policy or policies which promote new development that will make a positive contribution to character and distinctiveness. (126) 	<p>CS Policy EN3 on Historic Environment</p> <p>Sets out the detailed principals for the protect and management of heritage assets designated and non designated</p> <p>AAP Policy set out guidance promoting preservation and enhancement of city centre historic assets as well as their character and settings.</p>
<p>13. Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals (paras 142-149)</p>		
<p>It is important that there is a sufficient supply of material to provide the infrastructure, buildings, energy and goods that the country needs. However, since minerals are a finite</p>	<p>Account taken of the matters raised in relation to paragraph 143 and 145, including matters in relation to land in national / international designations; landbanks; the defining of Minerals Safeguarding Areas; wider matters relating to safeguarding; approaches if non-mineral</p>	<p>N/A.</p>

<p>natural resource, and can only be worked where they are found, it is important to make best use of them to secure their long-term conservation (142)</p> <p>Minerals planning authorities should plan for a steady and adequate supply of industrial materials (146)</p>	<p>development is necessary within Minerals Safeguarding Areas; the setting of environmental criteria; development of noise limits; reclamation of land; plan for a steady and adequate supply of aggregates. This could include evidence of co-operation with neighbouring and more distant authorities.</p>	
<p>Justified: <i>The plan should be the most appropriate strategy, when considered against the reasonable alternatives, based on proportionate evidence.</i></p> <p>To be 'justified' a DPD needs to be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Founded on a robust and credible evidence base involving: research / fact finding demonstrating how the choices made in the plan are backed up by facts; and evidence of participation of the local community and others having a stake in the area. • The most appropriate strategy when considered against reasonable alternatives. 		
<p><i>Participation</i></p> <p>Has the consultation process allowed for effective engagement of all interested parties?</p>	<p>The consultation statement. This should set out what consultation was undertaken, when, with who and how it has influenced the plan. The statement should show that efforts have been made to consult hard to reach groups, key stakeholders etc. Reference SCI</p>	<p>Engagement Plans from all stages of production.</p> <p>Statement of Consultation [BCC/SD/008]</p>
<p><i>Research / fact finding</i></p> <p>Is the plan justified by a sound and credible evidence base? What are the sources of evidence? How up to date, and how convincing is it?</p> <p>What assumptions were made in preparing the DPD? Were they reasonable and justified?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The studies, reports and technical papers that provide the evidence for the policies set out in the DPD, the date of preparation and who they were produced by. <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sections of the DPD (at various stages of development) and SA Report which illustrate how evidence supports the strategy, policies and proposals, including key assumptions. <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A very brief statement of how the main findings of consultation support the policies, with reference to: reports to the council on the issues raised during participation, covering both the front-loading and formulation phases; and any other information on community views and preferences. <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For each policy (or group of policies dealing with the same issue), 	<p>Sustainability Appraisals from all stages of production.</p> <p>Main evidence used to inform policies are set out in BCCAAP Publication Draft – Evidence Base Para 1.16-1.24 and Appendix C</p> <p>The Background paper [BCC/SD/015] provides quick reference for each piece of evidence which policies they have informed.</p> <p>All main studies have been made available on line.</p>

	<p>a very brief statement of the evidence documents relied upon and how they support the policy (where this is not already clear in the reasoned justification in the DPD).</p>	
<p><i>Alternatives</i></p> <p>Can it be shown that the LPA's chosen approach is the most appropriate given the reasonable alternatives? Have the reasonable alternatives been considered and is there a clear audit trail showing how and why the preferred approach was arrived at? Where a balance had to be struck in taking decisions between competing alternatives, is it clear how and why the decisions were taken?</p> <p>Does the sustainability appraisal show how the different options perform and is it clear that sustainability considerations informed the content of the DPD from the start?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports and consultation documents produced in the early stages setting out how alternatives were developed and evaluated, and the reasons for selecting the preferred strategy, and reasons for rejecting the alternatives. This should include options covering not just the spatial strategy, but also the quantum of development, strategic policies and development management policies. • An audit trail of how the evidence base, consultation and SA have influenced the plan. • Sections of the SA Report showing the assessment of options and alternatives. • Reports on how decisions on the inclusion of policy were made. • Sections of the consultation document demonstrating how options were developed and appraised. • Any other documentation showing how alternatives were developed and evaluated, including a report on how sustainability appraisal has influenced the choice of strategy and the content of policies. 	<p>Issues and Options (2007) [BCC/SD/030] Further Issues and Options (2013) [BCC/SD/036] Publication Draft (2015) [BCC/SD/001]</p> <p>Sustainability Appraisal reports supporting each of the above stages.</p> <p>Background Paper [BCC/SD/015]</p> <p>Statement of Consultation [BCC/SD/008] sets out how the community have been given opportunity to influence options, including through response to Issues and Options Paper. It also includes the Council's response to the representations showing how consultation has influenced the Plan. This process has allowed for the alternatives to be raised and considered.</p>
<p><i>Effective: the plan should be deliverable over its period and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic priorities.</i></p> <p>To be 'effective' a DPD needs to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be deliverable 		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate sound infrastructure delivery planning • Have no regulatory or national planning barriers to its delivery • Have delivery partners who are signed up to it • Be coherent with the strategies of neighbouring authorities • Demonstrate how the Duty to Co-operate has been fulfilled • Be flexible • Be able to be monitored 		
<p><i>Deliverable and Coherent</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is it clear how the policies will meet the Plan's vision and objectives? Are there any obvious gaps in the policies, having regard to the objectives of the DPD? • Are the policies internally consistent? • Are there realistic timescales related to the objectives? • Does the DPD explain how its key policy objectives will be achieved? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sections of the DPD which address delivery, the means of delivery and the timescales for key developments and initiatives. • Confirmation from the relevant agencies that they support the objectives and the identified means of delivery, such as evidence that the plans and programmes of other bodies have been taken into account (e.g. Water Resources Management Plans). • Information in the local development scheme, or provided separately, about the scope and content (actual and intended) of each DPD showing how they combine to provide a coherent policy structure. • Section in the DPD that shows the linkages between the objectives and the corresponding policies, and consistency between policies (such as through a matrix). 	<p>Section 4 sets out Implementation and delivery section including monitoring and viability.</p> <p>Statement of consultation [BCC/SD/008]</p> <p>Section 4 includes outcomes, Indicators and targets tables are included for each key policy area.</p> <p>Local Development Scheme to be updated in June 2014</p>
<p><i>Infrastructure Delivery</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have the infrastructure implications of the policies clearly been identified? • Are the delivery mechanisms and timescales for implementation of the policies clearly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A section or sections of the DPD where infrastructure needs are identified and the proposed solutions put forward. • A schedule setting out responsibilities for delivery, mechanisms and timescales, and related to a CIL schedule where appropriate. • Confirmation from infrastructure providers that they support the 	<p>Local Infrastructure Plan AAP Infrastructure Delivery Study[BCC/SD/022]</p> <p>Implementation and Delivery Section</p>

<p>identified?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is it clear who is going to deliver the required infrastructure and does the timing of the provision complement the timescale of the policies? 	<p>solutions proposed and the identified means and timescales for their delivery, or a plan for resolving issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrable plan-wide viability, particularly in relation to the delivery of affordable housing and the role of a CIL schedule. 	<p>CS Policies ID4. and ID5 set out approach to implementation</p> <p>AAP Viability (DTZ) [BCC/SD/028] shows how viability has been addressed.</p>
<p><i>Co-ordinated Planning</i></p> <p>Does the DPD reflect the concept of spatial planning? Does it go beyond traditional land use planning by bringing together and integrating policies for development and the use of land with other policies and programmes from a variety of agencies / organisations that influence the nature of places and how they function?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sections of the DPD that reflect the plans or strategies of the local authority and other bodies • Policies which seek to pull together different policy objectives • Expressions of support/representations from bodies responsible for other strategies affecting the area 	<p>Appendix B sets out the policy context.</p> <p>Statement of Consultation [BCC/SD/008].</p> <p>Background report [BCC/SD/015] and duty to cooperate information [BCC/SD/016]</p>
<p><i>Flexibility</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the DPD flexible enough to respond to a variety of, or unexpected changes in, circumstances? • Does the DPD include the remedial actions that will be taken if the policies need adjustment? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sections of the DPD setting out the assumptions of the plan and identifying the circumstances when policies might need to be reviewed. • Sections of the annual monitoring report and sustainability appraisal report describing how the council will monitor: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. the effectiveness of policies and what evidence is being collected to undertake this b. changes affecting the baseline information and any information on trends on which the DPD is based • Risk analysis of the strategy and policies to demonstrate robustness and how the plan could cope with changing circumstances • Sections within the DPD dealing with possible change areas and how they would be dealt with, including mechanisms for the rate 	<p>This is dealt in section 4 which sets out the monitoring framework supported and gives an indication as to how performance will be judged against outcomes and possible triggers for plan review.</p> <p>This is covered in CS Housing Implementation and Delivery Strategy – Appendix 6.</p>

	<p>of development to be increased or slowed and how that would impact on other aspects of the strategy and on infrastructure provision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sections of the DPD identifying the key indicators of success of the strategy, and the remedial actions which will be taken if adjustment is required. 	
<p><i>Co-operation</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is there sufficient evidence to demonstrate that the Duty to Co-operate has been undertaken appropriately for the plan being examined? Is it clear who is intended to implement each part of the DPD? Where the actions required are outside the direct control of the LPA, is there evidence that there is the necessary commitment from the relevant organisation to the implementation of the policies? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A succinct Duty to Co-operate Statement which flows from the strategic issues that have been addressed jointly. A 'tick box' approach or a collection of correspondence is not sufficient, and it needs to be shown (where appropriate) if joint plan-making arrangements have been considered, what decisions were reached and why. The Duty to Co-operate Statement could highlight: the sharing of ideas, evidence and pooling of resources; the practical policy outcomes of co-operation; how decisions were reached and why; and evidence of having effectively co-operated to plan for issues which need other organisations to deliver on, common objectives for elements of strategy and policy; a memorandum of understanding; aligned or joint core strategies and liaison with other consultees as appropriate. 	<p>Background paper [BCC/SD/015] sets out outline of approach to Duty to Cooperate. A further detailed DtC paper will be produced for submission.</p>
<p><i>Monitoring</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the DPD contain targets, and milestones which relate to the delivery of the policies, (including housing trajectories where the DPD contains housing allocations)? Is it clear how targets are to be measured (by when, how and by whom) and are these linked to the production of the annual monitoring report? Is it clear how the significant effects identified in the sustainability appraisal report will be 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sections of the DPD setting out indicators, targets and milestones Sections of the current annual monitoring report which report on indicators, targets, milestones and trajectories Reference to any other reports or technical documents which contain information on the delivery of policies Sections of the current annual monitoring report and the sustainability appraisal report setting out the framework for monitoring, including monitoring the effects of the DPD against the sustainability appraisal 	<p>This is dealt in section 4 which sets out the monitoring framework supported and gives an indication as to how performance will be judged against outcomes and possible triggers for plan review.</p> <p>SA report [BCC/SD/003]</p> <p>On going AMR</p>

<p>taken forward in the ongoing monitoring of the implementation of the plan, through the annual monitoring report?</p>		
<p><i>Consistent with national policy: the plan should enable the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the policies in the Framework.</i></p>		
<p>The DPD should not contradict or ignore national policy. Where there is a departure, there must be clear and convincing reasoning to justify the approach taken.</p>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the DPD contain any policies or proposals which are not consistent with national policy and, if so, is there local justification? • Does the DPD contain policies that do not add anything to existing national guidance? If so, why have these been included? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sections of the DPD which explain where and how national policy has been elaborated upon and the reasons. • Studies forming evidence for the DPD or, where appropriate, other information which provides the rationale for departing from national policy. • Evidence provided from the sustainability appraisal (including reference to the sustainability report) and/or from the results of community involvement. • Reports or copies of correspondence as to how representations have been considered and dealt with. 	<p>The Council considers the policies and principles contained within the Area Action Plan are consistent with national policy. There are no instances where policies depart from national policy.</p> <p>The Council considers that national policy is only referred to (where relevant), to provide context for particular policies. National guidance has not been duplicated in this plan.</p>

Planning policy for traveller sites

Planning Policy for Traveller Sites was published in 23 March 2012 and came into effect on 27 March 2012. Circular 01/06: Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites and Circular 04/07: Planning for Travelling Showpeople have been cancelled. Planning Policy for Traveller Sites should be read in conjunction with the National Planning Policy Framework, including the implementation policies of that document.

The government's aim in relation to planning for traveller sites is:

'To ensure fair and equal treatment for travellers, in a way that facilitates the traditional and nomadic life of travellers whilst respecting the interests of the settled community'.

Government's aims in respect of traveller sites are:

- That local planning authorities (LPAs) make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning
- That LPAs work collaboratively, develop fair and effective strategies to meet need through the identification of land for sites
- Plan for sites over a reasonable timescale
- Plan-making should protect green belt land from inappropriate development
- Promote more private traveller site provision whilst recognising that there will always be those travellers who cannot provide their own sites
- Aim to reduce the number of unauthorised developments and encampments and make enforcement more effective.

In addition local planning authorities should:

- Include fair, realistic and inclusive policies
- Increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations with planning permission, to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply
- Reduce tensions between settled and traveller communities in plan-making and decision-taking
- Enable provision of suitable accommodation from which travellers can access education, health, welfare and employment infrastructure
- Have due regard to protection of local amenity and local environment

Policy Expectations	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
Policy A: Using evidence to plan positively and manage development (para 6)		
Early and effective community engagement with both settled and traveller communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early and effective engagement undertaken, including discussing travellers' accommodation needs with travellers themselves, their representative bodies and local support groups. 	The BCC Area Action Plan does not include a specific site allocation for traveller accommodation. Should a need for this be identified, this will be addressed through review of the Local Plan as appropriate in recognition of any requirements.
Co-operate with travellers, their representative bodies and local support groups, other local authorities and relevant interest groups to prepare and maintain an up-to-date understanding of likely permanent and transit accommodation needs of their areas.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstration of a clear understanding of the needs of the traveller community over the lifespan of your development plan. • Collaborative working with neighbouring local planning authorities. • A robust evidence base to establish accommodation needs to inform the preparation of your local plan and make planning decisions. 	N/A
Policy B: Planning for traveller sites (paras 7-11)		
Set pitch targets for gypsies and travellers and plot targets for travelling showpeople which address the likely permanent and transit site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification, and annual update, of a supply of specific, deliverable sites sufficient to provide 5 years worth of sites against locally set target. Identification of a supply of specific, developable 	N/A

Policy Expectations	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
<p>accommodation needs of travellers in your area, working collaboratively with neighbouring LPAs.</p> <p>Set criteria to guide land supply allocations where there is identified need.</p> <p>Ensure that traveller sites are sustainable economically, socially and environmentally.</p>	<p>sites or broad locations for growth for years 6-10, and, where possible, for years 11-15.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An assessment of the need for traveller sites, and where an unmet need has been demonstrated a supply of specific, deliverable sites been identified. • Policy which takes into account criteria a-h of para 11 	
<p>Policy C: Sites in rural areas and the countryside (para 12)</p>		
<p>When assessing the suitability of sites in rural or semi-rural settings LPAs should ensure that the scale of such sites do not dominate the nearest settled community.</p>		N/A
<p>Policy D: Rural exception sites (para 13)</p>		
<p>If there is a lack of affordable land to meet local traveller needs, LPAs in rural areas, where viable and practical, should consider allocating and releasing sites solely for affordable travellers sites.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If a rural exception site policy is used, and if so clarity that such sites shall be used for affordable traveller sites in perpetuity. 	N/A
<p>Policy E: Traveller sites in Green Belt (paras 14-15)</p>		
<p>Traveller sites (both permanent and temporary) in the Green Belt are inappropriate</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Belt boundary revisions made in response to a specific identified need for a traveller site, undertaken through the plan 	N/A

Policy Expectations	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
<p>development.</p> <p>Exceptional limited alteration to the defined Green Belt boundary (which might be to accommodate a site inset within the Green Belt) to meet a specific, identified need for a traveller site ... should be done only through the plan-making process.</p>	<p>making process.</p>	
<p>Policy F: Mixed planning use traveller sites (paras 16-18)</p>		
<p>Local planning authorities should consider, wherever possible, including traveller sites suitable for mixed residential and business uses, having regard to the safety and amenity of the occupants and neighbouring residents.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of the need for sites for mixed residential and business use (having regard to safety and amenity of the occupants and neighbouring residents), or separate sites in close proximity to one another. • N.B. Mixed use should not be permitted on rural exception sites 	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Policy G: Major development projects (para 19)</p>		
<p>Local planning authorities should work with the planning applicant and the affected traveller community to identify a site or sites suitable for relocation of the community if a major development proposal requires the permanent or temporary relocation of a traveller site.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where a major development proposal requires the permanent or temporary relocation of a traveller site, the identification of a site or sites suitable for re-location of the community. 	<p>N/A</p>

End